

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00740 030858Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /089 W

-----030927Z 050696 /15

R 021502Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5943

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MZ, AO

SUBJECT: MOZAMBIQUE OFFICIAL AND MEDIA REACTION TO ATTEMPTED COUP  
IN ANGOLA

1. GPRM REACTION AS MIRRORED IN DAILY PRESS WAS ONE OF COMPLETE  
SUPPORT TO ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT AND MPLA OF PRESIDENT AUGUSTINHO  
NETO, DURING AND FOLLOWING THE ABORTIVE COUP IN LUANDA 27-28  
MAY. ON MAY 28 MEDIA CARRIED MESSAGE OF SUPPORT FROM SAMORA  
MACHEL TO AUGUSTINHO NETO, BLAMING THE ATTACK ON "COUNTER-  
REVOLUTIONARIES AND REACTIONARIES" WHO "USED THE MASK OF REVO-  
LUTIONARIES." TAKING ITS CUE FROM THIS, THE LOCAL MEDIA HAVE  
UNTIL JUNE 2 CONSISTENTLY DESCRIBED THE COUP PERPETRATORS AS  
REACTIONARIES AND WERE WELL ON THE WAY TO DEVELOPING THE THESIS  
THAT THIS WAS ALL A CONSPIRACY OF THE IMPERIALISTS. ON JUNE 1  
SERGIO VIEIRA, CHEF DE GABINETE IN THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE,

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PAGE 02 MAPUTO 00740 030858Z

WENT TO ANGOLA ON A MISSION TO EXPRESS PERSONALLY THE GPRM'S  
AND FRELIMO'S SOLIDARITY WITH NETO AND THE MPLA. WITH VIEIRA  
WENT INFORMATION DIRECTOR MURADALI MAMADHUSSEIN, CUSTOMS DIREC-  
TOR FERNANDO HONWANA, AND AQUINO DE BRAGANCA, UNOFFICIAL  
PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR AND UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR. ON JUNE 2 LOCAL  
PRESS PRINTED A STATEMENT FROM NETO TO THE MOZAMBIQUE DELEGATION  
WHICH MIGHT WELL HAVE COME AS SOMETHING OF A SHOCK HERE. NETO DID

NOT BLAME THE COUP ATTEMPT ON REACTIONARIES OR IMPERIALISTS, BUT ON "LEFTISTS" AND "RADICALS," WHO WERE SUPPORTED BY "EXTREMISTS FROM PORTUGAL." THE CONFRONTATION WAS BETWEEN "RADICALS" AND THOSE WHO FOLLOWED THE MPLA LINE, NETO EXPLAINED. NETO EXPLAINED THAT ONE OF THE PRUPOSES OF THE RADICALS WAS TO ELIMINATE WHITES AND MIXED-BLOODS FROM THE LEADERSHIP. THIS SHOULD MAKE DIFFICULT READING TO MOZAMBICANS WHO HAVE BEEN ACCUSTOMED BY FRELIMO TO THINK THAT LEFTISTS AND RADICALS ARE POSITIVE APPELATIONS AND THAT RADICALS FROM PORTUGAL ARE AMONG THE "NATURAL ALLIES." THE LOCAL MEDIA, PERHAPS IN SOME CONFUSION, HAS RETREATED INTO CALLING NITO ALVES, JOSE DUNEN ET AL "FRACCIONALISTAS" (FRACTIONALISTS) AND ATTACKING THE EVILS OF FRACTIONALISM.

2. COMMENT: WE READ BETWEEN THE LINES A SENE OF SHOCK HERE AT THE CASUALTIES INCURRED IN THE ONE-DAY REBELLION AND THE FRATRICIDAL NATURE OF THE CONFLICT. NONETHELESS, IDEOLOGICAL CONFOUNDMENT ASIDE, MACHEL'S QUICK RESPONSE IN SUPPORTING NETO ILLUSTRATES THAT THERE IS A PERSONAL COMMITMENT BETWEEN MACHEL AND THE FRELIMO LEADERSHIP TONETO. DOUBTLESS THE LOCAL MEDIA, AFTER PAUSING TO OBTAIN THE CORRECT MARXIST-LENINIST JARGON (PROBABLY FROM EAST GERMAN ADVISORS), WILL RETURN TO THE THEME OF IMPERIALIST CONSPIRACY AT A LATER DATE, WHEN NETO'S WORDS HAVE FADED.  
DE PREE

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Subject:** MOZAMBIQUE OFFICIAL AND MEDIA REACTION TO ATTEMPTED COUP IN ANGOLA  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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